

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A hoist for transfer of cargo containers to and from beds of vehicles, the hoist having comprising:

a loadspreader having ~~vertical engaging hooking means~~ hooks for securing a cargo container thereto;

~~means~~ a supporting structure for supporting said loadspreader ~~for the container on~~ with respect to a truck bed ~~to~~ such that the container, supported on the truck bed, can be driven under and aligned parallel ~~under~~ to said loadspreader;

a plurality of links of equal pivot length, connecting said loadspreader to said ~~support~~ means supporting structure to form a parallelogram linkage to ~~swing~~ allow said loadspreader to swing through an arc while remaining parallel to the truck bed ~~substantially horizontally up and down;~~

a cable and a winch ~~means for latching~~ connected to hold said loadspreader ~~up from dropping~~ and for releasing said winch to lower said loadspreader when the weight of said loadspreader is lifted off of said winch ~~means;~~

biasing means to reel up slack cable ~~to operate the~~ on said winch to hold the load up with the winch;

said hooks being operable to engage or disengage when the container is supported on the truck;

a tab on the front of the truck bed being operative to engage the forward end of the container when aligned with the truck bed to swing up said links to lift the container;

said vertically engaging hooking means connecting the container to said loadspreader when aligned therewith for swinging said loadspreader up to lift and hold the container to clear

the truck bed so the truck can leave the container on the loadspreader held lifted by said winch means; and

means for releasing said vertically engaging hook means when the weight of said container is relieved therefrom as when the truck bed is supporting the container on the loadspreader.

2. (Currently Amended) A hoist as in claim 1, said loadspreader having depending legs integral therewith to extend down to pivot ~~to swing~~ on said links that extend up to said supporting structure for the loadspreader to swing on said links and to reduce the height of the hoist.

3. (Currently Amended) A hoist as defined in claim 1, said links having means to bias the links to swing up slightly to clear the loadspreader over the container when being driven under said hoist and a tab means located and secured extending down from the loadspreader to engage ~~the entering, then forward,~~ an end of the container when aligned under the loadspreader to push the loadspreader down on top of the container aligned to engage said ~~hooking means~~ hooks.

4. (Currently Amended) A hoist as in claim 3, wherein said means to bias the links ~~including~~ includes a weight extended from the links.

5. (Previously Presented) A hoist as in claim 1, said biasing means including a weight.